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12. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said printhead-related service condition includes ink accumulation on the nozzle plate, and wherein the second service module includes a wiper fabricated of silicon, or a textile, or a special rubber for removing the ink accumulation.

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17. (Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an inkjet printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:
providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service module in an unused condition; and
installing the second service module in the printer;
conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module.

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20. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the printer is controlled by a host computer, and wherein the step of using the set of instructions includes downloading the set of printer instruction code from the host computer.

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30. (Amended) A special service module for use in an inkjet printing system including an inkjet printhead and a standard service module removably installed in the printing system, the special service module configured to be removably installed in the printing system in place of the standard service module to perform a special service function on the printhead which is not performed by the standard service module in an unused condition.

Add the following new claims.

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31. (New) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer, comprising:

identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing the printer with the first service module;

providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition;

removing the first service module from the printer;
installing the second service module in the printer in place of the first service module;
using the second service module, conducting a special printhead-related servicing operation;
after completion of the special printhead-related servicing operation, removing the second service module from the printer; and
installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

32. (New) The method of claim 16, further including:

performing the capping procedure with the second service module installed in the printer, and maintaining contact between the non-resilient cap structure and the printhead to prevent a pumping action on the printhead when subjected to vibration and shock.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein a constant closed volume is maintained between the cap structure and the printhead during the capping procedure.

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful review of the application as set out in the outstanding office action. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

A marked up version showing the changes made to the application is attached hereto.

Objection to the Drawings

The objections to the drawings are addressed by the drawing corrections submitted by a separate letter herewith.

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